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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. EXT-048

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT(S): Shuber
SERIAL NO.: 09/755,004 GROUP NO.: 1656
FILING DATE: January 5, 2001 EXAMINER: S. Chunduru
TITLE: Methods for Detecting, Grading or Monitoring an *H. pylori* Infection

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 10, 2001, for the above-referenced patent application. Applicant believes no fee is required by this response. If a fee is due, please charge deposit account no. 20-0531.

The Office Action alleges that the pending claims define five patentably distinct inventions, including those defined by Group I, claims 1-9, 17 and 18, drawn to methods for detecting an *H. pylori* infection; Group II, claims 10 and 11, drawn to methods for grading an *H. pylori* infection; Group III, claims 12 and 13, drawn to methods for monitoring progression of an *H. pylori* infection; Group IV, claims 14 and 15, drawn to methods for evaluating the efficacy of a proposed treatment regimen; and Group V, claim 16, drawn to a method for diagnosing a gastric disease in a patient.


Applicant elects the invention of Group I, claims 1-9, 17 and 18.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 1-9, 17 and 18 are hereby elected and presented for consideration. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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